

25
ARTICLES

Duplicate

OF

VISITATION and ENQUIRY,

Concerning MATTERS

Ecclesiastical:

EXHIBITED

To the Ministers, Church-wardens, and
Sidemen, of every Parish within the

Diocess of Winchester.

In the VISITATION

OF THE

Right Reverend Father in God

GEORGE

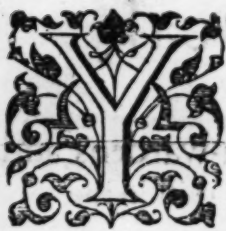
By Divine Providence

Lord Bishop of WINCHESTER.

LONDON,

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The Tenour of the Oath to be administered to
the Churchwardens, and Sidemen of every
Parish.



YO U shall Swear diligently to
enquire, and to make a true
answer vnto every Article in
this Book now given you in
charge; and to present every
Person that now is, or of late
was, inhabiting within your Parish, that hath
done any Offence, or omitted any Duty
therein mentioned: And this you shall do
uprightly and truly, without favour or ma-
lice, hope of reward, or fear of displeasure, so
far as by the Lawes you are bound.

So help you God.



ARTICLES

OF

VISITATION and ENQUIRY

WITHIN THE

Diocess of Winchester.

TITVL. I.

Concerning Churches and Chappels, with the Ornaments, and Furniture thereunto belonging.



In your Parish-Church, or Chappel kept in good Can. 85.
and sufficient repair? are the Roofs thereof
well covered with Lead, Tile, or Slate? the
Windows well glazed, the Floors well paved,
the Seats well satined, and conveniently placed,
and all things so decently ordered, as be-
cometh the House of God?

II. HATH the Steeple or Tower of your
Church or Chappel, or any part thereof, been Lind. Prov.
pulled down, or any of the Lead or Bells formerly belonging there- Const lib.
unto, been imbezelled, sold, or made away? in whose hands or custody de imunita
both the same, or any part thereof remain? Declare what you know, Eccl. six.
or have heard therein.

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In your Parish Church, or Chappel kept in good and sufficient repair? are the Roofs thereof well covered with Lead, Tile, or Slate? the Windows well glazed, the Floors well paved, the Seats well satined, and conveniently placed, and all things so decently ordered, as becometh the House of God? Can. 85.

II. HATH the Steeple or Tower of your Church or Chappel, or any part thereof, been pulled down, or any of the Lead or Bells formerly belonging thereunto, been imbezelled, sold, or otherwise away? In whose hands, or custody both the same, or any part thereof remain? Declares what you know, or have heard therein. Lind. Prov. Const. lib. de immunit. Eccl. siz.

Articles of Visitation.

Can. 81. III. IS there a Fest of Stone, with a good Cover thereunto, standing in a convenient place, towards the lower part of your Church; for the Administration of Baptism? and is there in your Church a decent Communion Table, for the Administration of the Loves Supper, with a Carpet of Silk or Wool, or fine Woollen Cloth, and another covering of white and pure Linnen to spread thereupon? And have you a fair Communion-Cup or Chalice, with a cover of Silver, and one or more Flagons of Silver or pewter thereunto belonging?

Can. 82. IV. HAVE you in your said Church or Chappel, a convenient Seat or Pew for your Minister to read Divine Service in? A Pulpit with a comely Cloth or Cushion for the same? A Table of the last Translation in a large Column, and the Book of Common-Prayer, published Anno 1662. both well and substantially bound? Have you likewise the Book of Homilies, set forth by Authority? a Book of Canons and Constitutions Ecclesiastical, and a Printed Table of the Degrees wherein Marriage is prohibited?

Can. 83. V. HAVE you a comely large Surplice for the Minister to wear at all times of his publick Ministration in the Church provided, and to be duly washed at the charge of the Parity?

Can. 70. VI. HAVE you a Register Book of Parchment, wherein to Register the Names and Surnames of all such persons as are Married, Baptized, or Buried within your Parity; together with the Names and Surnames of both the Parents of the Children so Christened, expressing the day, month, and year of all such Christenings, Marriages, and Burials? And is the transcript thereof yearly, within one month next after the 25 of March, brought into the Bishops Registry?

Can. 51. VII. HAVE you likewise another Book of Paper, wherein to record the Names and Licenses of all such Strangers, as are admitted at any time to Preach in your Church or Chappel: as also a third Book, wherein to write down the Church-wardens accounts: together with a strong Chest, with Locks and Keys, wherein to keep the aforesaid Books, and all other the aforesaid mentioned Furniture in safe Custody? and lastly, have you a Bier, with a black burial-cloth, for the Burial of the Dead?

Can. 85. VIII.

Concerning the Church-yard, the Houses, Glebes, and Tithes, belonging to the Church.

Can. 85. I. IS your Church yard sufficiently fenced with Walls, Rails, or Pales; and decently kept from the annoyance of Swine, Horses,

Horses, and other Cattle: Hath any person encroached upon the same or made any wood into it, out of his own ground, or plantation, without allowance from the Ordinary? Hath any Tree the growing been cut down; how long since; by whom; and to whose use and benefit?

35 Ed. 1.

II. IS the house of your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, (to wit, all the out-houses thereto belonging) kept in good and sufficient repair; Or hath any of the said Houses, or Out-houses, been defaced or pulled down without License from the Ordinary, and by whom? Hath any person encroached upon any Garden, Park, or Close, belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage house? or cut up any Tree growing thereon? or changed, or removed the ancient Parks and Bounds of the same?

Lind. lib.
de Offic.
Archid.Ibid. de Eccl.
clif. Edif.

III. HAVE you a true and perfect Title, of all the Glebe lands, Gardens, Orchards, Tenements, or Cottages belonging to your Parsonage, or Vicarage; as also a Rate of such Pennons, Rats Lythes, and Portions of Tythes, or other yearly profits (either within or without your Parish, as belong thereto)? Hath any of the same been withheld from your Minister; and by whom, as you know, or have heard?

Can. 87.

IV. HAVE any of the ancient Glebe lands belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage, been taken away, or exchanged for other rebus Ecclesie without the free consent of the Incumbent, and License from the Ordinary; by whom hath the same been made? and how many years since; and how much in your parsonage or Vicarage diminished thereby in the yearly value thereof; as you know, believe, or have heard

Lind. lib.
rebus Eccle.

TIT. III.

Concerning Ministers.

I. IS your Minister defamed, or suspected to have obtained either his Benefice or Orders by any Simonical compact?

Q. Eliz. 1.
Jun. 26.

II. HATH he been legally Inducted into his Benefice?

Can. 36.

III. DID he within two months after his Induction, publicly, in the Church, upon some Sunday or Holy-day, in the time of Divine Service, read the 39 Articles of the Church of England, established by Authority, and there publicly declare his assent thereto?

Lind. lib.

13 Q. Eliz.

Cap. 12.

IV. HATH

ARTICLES OF WITNESSE.

IV. HATH he any other Ecclesiastical Benefice? Is he constantly resident upon his Benefice among you? How many Weeks in any one year hath he been absent from it?

V. HATH you Minister a Curate, to assist him? Who is that Curate? Is he conformable to the Lawes and Orders of the Church of England? and doth he saye any other Church besides? And what yearly Assignm^t doth you give him; a^d how him?

VI. DOTH your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, in reading the daily Morning and Evening Service, Administration of the holy Sacraments, Celebration of Marriage, Churching of Women after Child-birth, Visitation of the Sick, Burial of the Dead, and pronouncing Gods Commination against impenitent Sinners, use the forme and Words prescribed in the Book of Common-Prayer, without any addition, omission, or alteration of the same? And doth he use all such Rites and Ceremonies in all parts of Divine Service, as are appointed in the said Book; so far as you have observed?

VII. DOTH your Minister at the Reading or Celebrating the Divine Offices in your Church, or Chappel, wear the Surplice?

VIII. DOTH he observe the Fast-days, and Fasting-days, as also the Ember weeks, and the yearly Perambulation in Rogation weeks, as in the Common prayer-Book is appointed? giving notice to the Parishioners of above of the same in the Church in the time of Divine Service, upon the Sunday next before?

IX. HATH your Minister been Licensed to preach by the Bishop? If so, doth he then constantly, (unless in case of sickness, necessary absence, or other reasonable impediment,) himself preach in your Church or Chappel, one Sermon every Sunday? Or is he be not a Licensed Preacher, or being so Licensed, be hindered by sickness, or otherwise, as aforesaid, doth he procure a Sermon to be so preached by some other Minister, a Licensed Preacher; or one of the Sermons he hath by Authority, to be there read by a Priest, or Deacon?

X. DOTH your Minister diligently instruct the Youth of your Parish in the Christian Religion, and doth he prepare and present them, when they are ready, to be confirmed by the Bishop; and doth he endeavor to reclaim all Wicked Persons, and other Disorderly persons inhabiting within your Parish, to the true Religion, established in the Church of England, and to their bounden duty in obeying the Law, and submitting to the Government thereof?

XI. DOTH he neglect or refuse to visit the Sick, or delay the Baptism

Baptism of any Infant that is in danger of death? Is there any Child past Infancy, or other Person of more years, through Ministers default, yet remaining unbaptized in your Parish? Doth he or she to baptize any without God-fathers and God-mothers, or admit either of the Parents to be Godfather or God-mother to their own Children? Can. 68. Can. 69. Can. 29.

XII. HATH he at any time (as you know) or have heard preach any false, Heretical, Seditionous, or Schismatical Doctrine, thereby to seduce the people into Parties and Factions, to the disturbance of for publick peace and unity either of Church or State? Can. 5. 13 Eliz. 12.

XIII. HATH he presumed to marry any persons in private houses or such as, being under age, have not the consent of their Parents? or without the banns first published on three Sundays or Holy-days in the Church? or at any other house than between eight and twelve in the Morning, unless he had a Licence or Dispensation to so do? Can. 62.

XIV. DOTH any person preach in your Parish as a Lecturer? Hath he allowance from the Bishop for so doing? Doth he, before his Lecture, read Divine Service, according to the Book of Common Prayer? and is he in all respects conformable to the Laws and Orders of the Church of England? Can. 56.

XV. HATH your Minister taken upon him to appoint any publick or private Fasts, Prophecies, or Exercises not appointed by Authority? or doth he, or any other, either Minister or Lay person, hold any Conventicles, or Meetings in private houses within your Parish, for Peoples of several Families to resort unto, under the pretence of Preaching, Praising, Thanksgiving, or Familiarization, contrary to the Laws and Canons in that case provided? Can. 72.

XVI. IS your Parson, Vicar, Curate, or Lecturer, a man of a sober, unblameable, and exemplary life? Doth he familiarly converse with ungodly, vicious, and excommunicate persons? Is he a frequenter of Taverns or Ale-houses? a common Gamester, a Drinker, a Swearer, Rater, or Quarreller? Doth he set Neighbours at variance one with another? or encourage them to Suits and Contentions? Is he noted to be an intemperate Drinker? or vehemently suspected of Incontinency with any person either within your Parish, or without? Is his apparel grave and decent, as the Canons of the Church require? Is his Conversation, and Conversation, in any kind inoffensive, disorderly or scandalous, and unbecoming a Minister of Jesus Christ? Can. 73. Can. 74.

Concerning the Parishioners.

Can. 110.

I. **I**S there in your Parish any person a known or reputed Heretic or Dissimulation? any Papist, Familist, Anabaptist, Quaker, or other Sectaries that refuse to come unto the publick Assemblies, Prayers, or Services of the Church? or that makes profession of any other Religion then what is established in the Church of England? and if there be any such, what are their Names?

Can. 109.

II. **I**S there any person in your Parish that lieth under a common fame, or vehement suspicion of Fornication, or Incest? Are there any common Drunkards within your Parish, or common Swearers, or Blasphemers of Gods Name, or any that are noted to be Rascals, unclean and filthy Talkers, or Belovors of Idleness, Faction, and Discord amongst their Neighbours?

3 & 6 Ed. 6.

cap. 3.

Can. 13.

III. **D**O any of your Parish upon Sundays, or Holy-days, follow to their bodily or ordinary Labours, or permit their Servants to do so? Are any Shops kept open, or Wares sold? or do any Tinkers, Inn-keepers, or other Vagabonds, and sellers of Beer or Ale, suffer any persons to tipple or gaine in their houses upon those days?

Q. Eliz. 22.

IV. **D**O TH every person inhabiting and sojourning within your Parish duly resort unto your Church, or Chappel, upon every Sabbath and Holy day appointed for Divine Services? Do they then and there abidingly with reverence, order, and decency, during all the whole time of Common-Prayer, preaching, or other Service of God there used? And are there any among you that come only to the preaching, and not to the Common Prayers of the Church?

Can. 18.

Can. 111.

Can. 18.

V. **D**O TH every person reverently uncover his head, and so continue all the time of Divine Services in the Church? Do they all reverently kneel at the Prayers, and stand up when the Creed and Gospel are read, making due reverence when the Name of our Lord Jesus is mentioned?

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B

VI. **A**RE there any in your Parish that refuse to send their Infant-children to be Baptized publicly in the Church, unless in case of urgent danger? in which case the child may be baptized at home by a lawfull Minister, after the same and rites appointed in the Liturgy? or do they send them from their own Minister to be baptized in any other Parishes, or after some then is appointed

infants? Do they keep them unbaptized any longer than the Church alloweth? And are there any Infants, of whose ages parents in your Parish are yet unbaptized?

Can. 59.

VII. DOth any person in your Parish cause their children and children's to come to Church, to learn their Catechism, and to give an account thereon to your Minister, as he shall require it of them openly in the Church as on Sundays and Holy days as in the Book of Common Prayer is appointed: That when they are well instructed in the same, they may be confirmed by the Bishop?

Can. 61.

VIII. IS there any person in your Parish who being 14 years of age, hath not received the Sacrament of the Lords Supper at least three times in the year: of which Easter is always to be one? Doth any in your Parish refuse to receive the same kneeling, or from the hands of your own Minister, repairing for it to other Ministers and Ministers abroad? or are there any strangers not of your Parish, that forsake their own Churches, and usually repair to others for it?

Can. 112.

Can. 114.

Can. 21.

Can. 27.

Rub. C. Pra.

Cin. 28. 57.

Can. 65.

IX. HAVE you any among you that be denounced and declared excommunicate for any crime committed? How long have they been so excommunicated? And do any of your Parish keep society with them before they be reconciled to the Church, and absolved?

X. ARE there any living in your Parish as men and wife who are within the degrees prohibited? or any that being lawfully divorced have married again? or any that being lawfully married, and not separated, or divorced by course of Law, do not cohabit together?

Can. 93.

Can. 107.

XI. ARE there any married women in your parish who, after their delivery from the perill of Child birth, refuse to make their publick thanksgiving to God in the Church? And when they come in to do, they come diligently apparelled, and make their offerings according to custom?

Rub. C. Pra.

XII. ARE there any belonging to your Parish who refuse to pay their duty for Easter-Offerings to your Minister? or any that refuse to contribute and pay the rate assessed upon them for the repair of your Church or Chappel, and for the providing of such Books, Furniture and Ornaments, and requisites for the performance of all Divine Offices there?

27 Hen. 8. 20

Rub. Com.

Prayer.

Can. 85.

XIII. Do any refuse to bury their dead according to the Rites of the Church of England? And are there any Wills or Testaments of persons dead in your Parish, that be yet unproven? or any Goods administered without a due grant from the Ordinary? Did any living in your Parish, or elsewhere, leave any Legacy to your Church or Chappel? What were those Legacies, and how have they been bestowed?

Rub. Com.

Prayer.

Can. 61.

Can. 92.

21 Hen. 8. 5.

Lind. lib. 3.

de Test.

XIV. IS there any strife and contention among any of your Parish for their Pewes or Seats in your Church? Have any new Pewes been erected in your Chancel, or in the Body of your Church or Chappel, without leave from the Ordinary?

A&C. Parl.
1671.

XV. DOE you know, or have heard of any person, or persons, who detain in their hands any Money Collected for the poor afflicted by the late Plague or Burning of the City of London, what is the Sum, and by whom is it detained?

TIT. V.

Concerning Parish-Clerks and Sextons.

Can. 9.

I. HAVE you belonging to your Church or Chappell a Parish-Clerk, aged 21 years at least? Is he of honest life and conversation? and sufficient or able to perform his duty in reading, writing, and singing? Is he chosen by your Minister, and doth he duly attend him in all Divine Services at the Church? Are his wages duly paid unto him? or who withholdeth the same from him?

Can. 67.

II. DOTH he or your Sexton (if there be any such appointed in your Parish) diligently look to the doores of your Church, that they be locked and opened at due time? And doth he keep your Church or Chappel clean from dust, cobwebs, and other annoyance? Doth he toll or ring the Bells at the due accustomed hours before the beginning of Divine Service, Morning and Evening, that the people may be warned to come unto the Church? And when any person is passing out of this life, doth he, upon notice given him thereof, toll a Bell, as hath been accustomed, that the neighbours may thereby be warned to recommend the dying person to the grace and labour of God?

TIT. VI.

Concerning Hospitals, Schools, School-masters, Physicians, Chirurgeons, and Mid-wives.

2 Hen. 5. 1.
Q. Eliz.
An. 5. 4.

I. IS there in your Parish any Hospitals, Almshouse, or Free-school, not of the Kings Foundation or Patronage? Who was the Founder, or is now the Patron thereof? And what is the yearly Revenue, or Stipend, belonging to the Governors or Ma-

Ward of the same? Is the same officers are governed in every respect as it ought to be? and are the Medowes thereof rightly employed, according to the intention of the Founder, and of such grants or Ordinances as have been made concerning the same?

II. DOTH any man keep a publick or private School in your Parish, who is not allowed thereto by the Bishop? Doth your School master teach his Scholars the Catechism of Religion set forth by Authority? Doth he cause them upon Sundays and Holy-days expressly to repair to your Church or Chappel? and in that they behave themselves there quietly and reverently during the time of Divine Service and Sermon?

III. DOTH any man in your Parish practise Physick, or Chirurgie, or any Women take upon her to exercise the Office of a Witch, without Approbation and License from the Ordinary?

III. VII.

Queries to be put to the Minister, concerning the Church-wardens and Side-men.

I. ARE the Church-Wardens of your Parish yearly and duly chosen by the joynt consent of the Minister and Parishioners; or one of them by the Minister, and the other by the Parishioners?

II. HAVE the former and last Church-Wardens given up their due Accounts to the Parish, and delivered up to the succeeding Church-Wardens the moneys remaining in their hands, together with all other things belonging to your Church or Chappel?

III. DO the Church-Wardens and Side-men take diligent care, and see that of the Parishioners be absent from the Divine Service, and Sermon in your Church or Chappel, upon Sundays and Holy-days? And if they find any of them, to have absented themselves without a sufficient cause, do they by warrant from some of the Justices of Peace, levie of them, by way of distress upon their goods, the sum of 12 pence for every such day of their absence, according to the Act of Parliament in that case provided? And do they distribute the several sums so levied among the poor of your Parish according to the Law?

IV. DO they present them that come late to Church after Divine Service is begun, or depart before it be ended? Do they suffer none to stand idle, or talk together in the Church porch, or to walk

Can. 90.

Can. 18.

Can. 88.

Can. 20.

Can. 52.

Can. 119.

And the Bishop of the Diocese of London, in the year 1700, did publish the following Canon, which is now in force.

VI. DO they cause all strangers that preach in your Church of Chapel, to subscribe their names the same day in a Book provided for that purpose, together with the name of the Bishop that licensed them to preach in this Diocese? And do they permit no other to preach?

VII. DO they against their Commission appointed in your Church of Chapel, publish a sufficient quantity of any white Bread, and of good wine, according to the number of Communicants?

VIII. DO they cause all strangers that preach in your Church of Chapel, to subscribe their names the same day in a Book provided for that purpose, together with the name of the Bishop that licensed them to preach in this Diocese? And do they permit no other to preach?

IX. HAVE they (the Church-wardens and Overseers) taken upon them to give to a stranger answer unto all their Articles of Inquiry in all their several Writs, taken sufficient time to show up their presentments and therein consulted with you their Minister for some faithful assistance?

A **FOR** know you assuredly, That as the true discharging of your Office is the chief means whereby public Disorders, Sins and Offences, in your Parish may be reformed and punished; So if you willfully refuse to prevent such crimes and sinners, as when you hear them have committed, or otherwise have heard of by public sinners; That in such case the Bishop and his Officers are to proceed against you; in their Ecclesiastical Courts, in case of wilful Contumacy and Obstruction, and to send you to prison, till you are content to do as you shall be commanded.

THE Ministers of every Parish are desired to give in the names of such of the younger sort of several Parishes, as they judge are to receive Confirmation from the Bishop, and to present them to be confirmed; especially such as having competently learned their Catechism, have not yet received the Holy Communion; and to present them to the Bishop to be confirmed, as there shall be opportunity.